Remarks

Claims Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 19 has been canceled with this response. Claim 20 has been amended so as to depend on claim 18 rather than claim 12. This claim now has proper antecedent basis for the term objected to.

Applicants do not understand the rejection to claim 23 being an omnibus type of claim as the claim clearly recites a list of elements for which protection is sought. However, claim 23 has been amended to explicitly incorporate the matter of claim 21. In view of this revision of claim 23, claims 24 and 25 should also now be allowable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Examiner rejected claims 1-18, 21-22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Naqvi et al. (US6,801,771). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 recites "a method of intelligent network service provision". Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the first network element is "a service providing network element" and "provides <u>intelligent network</u> services to said network user dependent on said network user status information." This amendment incorporates the matter of claim 19. It is noted that this claim was not rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Naqvi does not teach "intelligent network service provision" and fails to mention the term "intelligent network" at all. For this reason alone, Naqvi fails to anticipate claim 1. Independent claims 12, 18, 21 and 23 have been amended in a similar manner to claim 1 and are considered allowable for the same reasons.

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Naqvi teaches the use of a proxy switch which is positioned between a Base Station Subsystem (BS) and a Mobile Switching Center (MSC). The proxy switch can intercept messaging passing between the BS and MSC. The passage at col.6 line 55 – col.27 line 27 of Naqvi that the Examiner has referred to describes how the proxy switch can be used to intercept messages between a mobile station (MS) and an MSC and to transfer the call involving that MS to a different network, such as an IP network. Respectfully, this does not describe the provision of Intelligent Network services.

All remaining claims are dependent upon one of claims 1, 12, 18, 21 and 23 and are submitted to be allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on an allowable base claim

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims pending in this application are now in condition for allowance. Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

March 6, 2007

Respectfully submitted

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